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# New York Daily Tribune

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1857.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. notice can be taken of anonymous Communications. What ever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address o this writer—not necessarily for publica-tion, but as guarantly of his good faith.

Subsections, in sending as remittances, frequently omit to men-tion the name of the Fost-Office, and very frequently the name of the State, to which their paper is to be sent. Al-ways mention the name of the Post Affice and State.

A limited number of advertisements are taken i THE WESKLY TRIBUKE at the rate of one dollar a line. This paper has attained a circulation of 175,000 copies, and is unquestionably the best medium extant for advertising in the country. Advertisements should be handed in at any time before, and not later than Tuesday of each week.

In SENATE, yesterday, Mr. SEWARD (N. Y.) in t: oduced a bill to aid the establishment of the Trans atlantic Telegraph. It was referred to the Post-

Office Committee.

The House bill for the payment of invalid and

other pensions was passed.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the Iowa election case. No question was taken. After adopting a resolution calling for informa-tion as to Venezuelan occupation of the Isle of Aves, the Senate adjourned to Monday.

In the House, twenty-one private bills were passed. The remainder of the session was used up in debate upon a newspaper article charging cor-ruption upon the members.

We received last night our files of European journals brought by the North American of Portland, but find in them nothing of importance to add to the telegraphic dispatch published in our paper of

The action of the Union State Convention of Connecticut, in unanimously passing a series of resolutions which deduce the true platform of the People's party from the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, is of no small significance. It means that Connecticut, for her part, is determined to sink all minor questions for the present-Native Americanism, as well as Temperance and the Tatiff-in the paramount issue of resistance to the extension of Slavery, and that the majority of her people regard this as quite broad enough to form the basis of a great National party. It means that the mutual jealousy and heartburn ings which, however slight, have been greater than we could, any or us, have wished, are no longer, we will not say to divide, but to distinguish, the several bodies of men who go to make up the great army of Freedom; that what was a Confederacy in 1856 is to be a Union henceforth, and that who ever has ventured to talk of the assets of the Frementers, and speculated about the probable fate of the constituent elements of that party, has simply reckened without his host.

The body which took this decisive step was not an ordinary political Convention. There may have been a few politicians and a stray wirepuller or two meng the delegates, but the'r influence was very elight. "The underground arrange nents," in the words of a member, "were completely cut off and "every man acted for himself." It had been rumored that the Convention was packed by the Americans. If such were the fact, or if the proportion in which they stood to the Republicans was three to one, as was stated in debate, the more hener to them-for it enhances the value of the sacrifice which they made, not of principle, but of pride and party feeling, for the sake of principle. Mas after man, who had whilem followed the banner of the dark lantern, rose in his place and said that to adhere to it at this juncture, to in sist upon an affirmation of what is called the American principle, would be the death, not of a political par'y, but of the great cause of Liberty. One might almost wish that the Convention had been packed for so mobic a purpose. Hut it could not have been. Americans, we are told, voted for Republicans and | State street has discovered that, sheemaker as he

Republicans for Americans, at the primery assembiles, and more than one member affirmed his utter ignorance of the party efficiations of his candidate for Governor-his only question being, is he true to Freedom!

That the people were fully and fairly represented, we cannot doubt. The people wished harmony, and barmony was the desire of almost every man who stood for them. The peop'e wished every shade of opinion to find expression, that all parties interested in the noble compact to be made might sign and seal it together; and what clique so small that its exponent was not in the Convention? The people always like to have their views represented by men of undoubted good sense and ntegrity; but in what State Convention have they been represented by men of more undoubted probity and worth than those who met at New-Haven on Thursday? Old men, who appeared to perform what they regarded as their last political duty, young men earnest and true, solid farmers, acute and elequent lawyers—the best that the land of steady habits produces-were there.

We are far from disposed to regret that so happy a result was only arrived at through hours of warm debate and at the expense to many of a good night's sleep. Two distinct bodies seldom unite to form a third without some effervescence; at least, two friends can never be at one till they have come to an explanation of the difference between them. Such is the law of nature-certainly of human nature. Sooner or later the two parties would have had to fight their way to a perfect understanding; and, in such matters, it is never well to postpone the day, and thus leave room for new cause of quarrel to creep in. We rejoice that the contested resolution was introduced. It was called a firebrand in the course of the debate. So it was, for it burned up noxious vapors and left the air pure. The action of this Convention gives us courage to do what few have been hardy enough to attempt of late years. We are all but emboldened to prophesy, that the State will be ours for years to come. Her people appear to be almost as thoroughly united as in the days of Roger Sherman. They are enthusiastic in behalf of the cause of liberty, and disposed to work for victory, in place of believing that it will come while they sleep. We do earnestly hope that Connecticut will now cease to be a comet, whose course no man can predict, and henceforth burn in the political horizon, a star, like Vermont, that never sets. Of what New-England State may we not hope as much now, or of what Free State by 1860?

When that great and good man, Sir Fowell Bux ton, first proposed to divide the House of Com mons upon the question of West India Emancipation, his temerity excited the apprehension of his friends and the ridicule of his opponents. Timid philanthropists were garrulous in their dissuasions; letters poured in upon him from all parts of the country entreating him to procrastinate; but the benevolent Baronet was proof against even such discouragements, and remained fixed in his purpose. He was left in a minority which would have been ludicrous, if the moral grandeur of his enterprise had been less; but he lived to see the reform thus almost hopelessly impeded in the beginning swept through the Lords and the Commons by triumphant majorities. It is thus that public measures of decided veracity contain within themselves a salient spring of vitality, which saves them from friendly treasen no less than from hostile assault. And what is true of measures is necessarily true of men who support them. Scarcely six years ago, when Mr. Charles Sumner was elected a Senator of the United States, a grean of despair, deep and deleful enough to have prognosticated chaos, came up from the so-called conservatives of Magnehusetts; the frigid gentlemen of Boston kindled into a passion; the leading journals of the State poured forth column after column, now mournful and now minacious; while Mr. Justice Curtis, with that instinct which has always distinguished bad Judges, was for instantly indicting the whole Coalition at Common Law! Nor did Mr. Summer escape the contumely thus liberally showered upon his friends. He was a mere rhetoricianhe was nothing but a man of books; he was a toler able scholar, but an intolerable statesman; he was well enough in his study, but absurdly out of place in the Senate.

We need not, in view of recent erents, point out the change which has taken place in the public sentiment of Massachusetts. It is not too much to say that Mr. Summer is at this moment the most popular man in the State the opinions of which he so truly represents. Nor will it do to attribute this general love, honor and sympathy entirely to the felonious assault made upon Mr. Sumner. Had he been less true to the cause committed to his keeping; had be trimmed and temporized, and spoken softly when he should have spoken sharply, he would have been safe from the bludgeon of the bully, and might have won the smiles instead of the expectorations of a certain servile Senator. The people of Massachusetts have estimated Mr. Sumner's service in all its length and breadth; they have duly weighed all its incidents and indignities-what he has suffered, what he has accomplished, and what he has failed to accomplish: and their verdict, expressed in yesterday's almost unanimous vote in the House of Representatives, bestows upon him a crown of honor which may well assuage the hope deferred of a tardy convalescence. Few public men have had such large opportunities; few public men bave so nobly improved them.

In connection with Mr. Summer, it may not be improper to speak of another Massachusette statesman, who, with an experience widely different, has won a reputation hardly inferior. Mr. Henry Walson was, we believe, the first to propose the name of his colleague for the vacant Senstorship; and during the unprecedented struggle which followed, he labored by day and by night-he spent time and money-he devoted all his great personal influence, to secure the election of his friend. Mr. Wilson was then, as he was afterward, the great bugbear of the Massachusetts toad eaters and trimmers. It was their firm conviction that he had horns and hoofs, and the caudal appendage traditionally assigned to the Father of Lies; that he was a sort of small Machiavelli; that he was the most artful and unprincipled politician in the Commonweal.b. No man was ever so absurdly misjudged. Mr. Wi'son owes his success, and his present opportunities of usefatness, solely to his fidelity to principles. He is so far from being an intriguer, that if he has one characteristic more prominent than another, it is the blunt simplicity with which he advances opinions and promotes measures. That he relies mainly upon the force of truth, and very little upon party management, is proved by the openness with which he acts. We hardly know a politician who keeps a secret so bad'y. In this hencety he has found his account.

was, and Republican as he is, be is yet a highminded, honest gentleman. His praiseworthy cenduct in the affair with Bludgeon Brooks has touched the old Sexon love of plack which still lingers in the American bosom; his faults are forgotten, and

only his fidelity is remembered. We have alluded to these gentlemen at this time, when the Massachusetts Legislature has thus expressed its sense of Mr. Sumper's public services, not to indulge in unmeaning and untimely culogy: but because at all times, and especially in these, it is proper to remind Senators and Representatives that in politics, as in everything else, honesty is the best policy. Now that the heat and turmoil of the Presidential election are over, now that so many inducements to mere lip-service are withdrawn, we wait with some anxiety to see who will remain firm and who will be found wanting. There is upon the statute book a barbarous enactment, which it would have tried the conscience of a Jeffreys or a Scroggs to enforce, but which smooth-faced Commissioners have been found willing to enforce to the inexpressible anguish and wretchedness of many miserable human beinge. Mr. Sumner, since he went to Washington, has not permitted a sing'e Session to pass without demanding its repeal. Is there no one to second him ! Is there no one to take heart of grace from the illustrious example cited at the commencement of this article, and make that motion, which, however signally it may now fail, is destined just as signally to triumph?

We have frequently directed public attention to he argent necessity for an act of Congress extending to ferry-boats the provisions of the present st amboat laws. If any one doubts the importance of this subject, let him cross either of our ferries te-day, and he will soon become thoroughly convinced. Not a single crossing is now made by any of the ferry-boats, but hundreds of precious lives are placed in imminent peril. The rivers are filled with beavy blocks of ice, packed closely together, through which the boats are compelled to crush and jam, and grind their way, lucky if they escape no greater damage than the loss of their sheathing. But they are not unfrequently cut through by the ice and in great danger of sinking. During this week five or six sea going vessels while at anchor in the rivers have been stove and sent adrift by the ice, and carried ashore, sustaining very serious in-

The perils of explosion, fire and collision are no less frequent and appalling. On Tuesday afternoon last, the Staten Island ferry-boat Sylph, while on her way from Whitehall, burst one of her boiler flues, causing the machinery to stop. There she drifted, to and fro, before a steady gale, and surrounded by heavy ice, at one time narrowly escaping the rocks of Governor's Island, and again being blown down the Bay, her officers losing all control over her. Of course the passengers were in peril, and became greatly slarmed. Finally, they were rescued by a chance steaming, which came to their assistance. On Thursday, the Wall street ferryboat Montauk narrowly escaped destruction by fire, under circumstances of great hazard to her passengers. As the case is stated, it was about 2 o'cleck, and she had just started from the Brooklyn side, when, as the pilot stepped into the pilothouse, after giving the usual signal to start, he discovered the flames coming up. The ferry-boat, fortunately, had not yet reached the outer end of the slip, and the pilot immediately rang to stop and back. He then gave the alarm, and almost immediately the flames were seen bursting from the roof. A scene of indescribable terror and confusion followed, and many were with difficulty restrained from jumping overboard. But a minute or so elapsed, however, ere the boat was back to the bridge, when every effort was put forth to save her. The donkey engine attached to the bost was put in operati n, hose was extended to the roof, and in a short time the flames were entirely subdued.

The cases which we have cited as illustrative of the dangerous casualties to which ferry-boats are liable, are but a few of the events of a single week in this port. Every day exemplifies the fact that with their present equipments the lives of passengers are placed in constant jeopardy. At the last ession the Committee on Commerce of the House of Representatives reported a bill extending the present steamboat laws over all steam ferry-boats. It was postponed, however, in consequence of the advanced period of the session. The importance of such an enactment to the public at large, and especially to the residents of this and the suburban cities, cannot be over-estimated. We fear that unless it is speedily passed, a calamity greater and more terrible than the burning of the Jersey last winter, at Philadelphia, will be the inevitable result. Daily, tens of thousands of people cross our ferries, and yet not a single boat carries above one or two life preservers, and a single leaky row boat. Exposed as they are to the manifold dargers arising from crowded and halffrozen rivers, the crushing ice, the devouring flames, and the numerous accidents which result from carelessness, it is truly miraculous that so few casualties have occurred

Since Mayor Wood has manifested so much con cern about the dangerous amendments to the Charter of this City which he charges certain unnamed parties with proposing, it may be worth while to recall his own suggestions and see in how much they differ from the action generally agreed upon to be recommended to the Legislature this Winter. Aside from a Registry law, the main features of reform asked for by the great body of good citizens are these: To make heads of Departments appointed instead of elected officers: to place the police beyond electioneering control; to separate the Charter election from the whirlpool of State and National politics: and to secure hones and impartial Inspectors of Election.

The object of appointing instead of electing Chiefs of Department s is to bring them under the contro of some efficient head. The Charter of 1830 which has been time and again lauded by Mr. Wood as the best we have ever had, made the Common Council the sole appointing power, not giving the Mayor any voice in the matter. We think the general opinion is in favor of restoring this appointing power to one at least, and perhaps to both Boards, so that the Common Council shall be responsible for the conduct of nearly all executive officers. Mr. Wood has argued through all his messages that nearly all the inefficiency and plundaring of late years has arisen from the election of these officers, and their consequent removal from the control of any power which could act promptly in cases of misconduct. Therefore Mayor Wood is in favor of

It is proposed to remove the Police as far as pos sible from political influence by giving their appointment and dismissal to a Commission of citizens to be appointed by the highest power in the State-the Governor and Senate; and to make their terms of office such that no one Governor or | the qualifications and duties required of them. The

party will be likely to reach all of them. Mr. Wood told us in his Message of Jan. 11, 1865, that while the power to appoint and remove Policemen ' is "elective it will be expecting too much of human nature to suppose that political influence can be excluded a together; " that "the whole Police "Board was elected at the late election, and two "of them were candidates for reelection; and Policemen would have been more or less than man if they could have remained indifferent spectators of the result." A year afterward he said that as Policemen were voters ard had a political value which was a stock in trade to make them of consequence, a recollection of "former political combats, with the laurels still green, prevents that submission necessary to a well-organized corps;" that while the creating power was political and liable to change, they must remain subject to prejudice or pleasure. This year he substantially repeats the same arguments. Very well then; let us remove the police-making power from this danger by going to the highest competent antherity for a commission of our best citizens to have centrol of the police. Mr. Wood proposes to have all power over the police put in his hands, though his effice is the very ore of all the elective offices in the city upon which party spirit most powerfully acts. Therefore, leaving his own personal aims out of the question, Mr. Wood is with us heart and hand on the Police question.

The next important proposition is to have the Charter election upon some other day than that for National and State officers. On this point, in 1855, Mayor Wood said; "I cannot omit expressing my conviction that much benefit could be derived to "the city by separating the election of Charter officers from that for State and National officers." He further argued that local interests were lost sight of in the conflict on national issues, and that the trouble of frequent elections was of little importance compared with the danger of selecting improper men. We venture to say that these are the sentiments of the great body of the people, and therefore we set down Mr. Wood as concurring with us and with the public at large on this question.

These points embrace all the radical changes proposed. Details follow as a matter of course, and have little bearing upon principles. If the election of Fernando Wood to the Mayoralty has served to arouse the people to the defects of the existing system of government; if his liberal promises and lamentable failures have proved the necessity of reform, a generous public will not fail to give him full credit for the ingenuous frankness with which he himself has pointed out the places where he required the restricting hand of law or the active pur of direct responsibility.

The extent to which Gov. Clark and other Governors have been disposed to carry the prerogative of elemency raises the question whether the exercise of that prerogative ought properly to be intrusted to a single individual, governed by no precedent, restrained by no rules, and exposed to act rather under the influence of his feelings than under that of his judgment. The fact that one of the convicts recently pardoned out by Gov. Clark has already subjected himself to a new charge, no less serious than that of manslaughter, gives additional emphasis to this inquiry.

In England, whence we have derived our usages on this subject, the pardoning power, though nominally vested in the sovereign, is really exercised by a Committee of the Privy Council, to whom all applications are referred. That Committee constitutes, in fact, a Court of Pardons, proceeding in its investigations according to a settled method, and is guided in its decision of individual cases by certain general principles. In our sister State of Massachusetts the pardoning power is exercised not by the Governor slone, but by the Governor by and with the consent of an Executive Council. In the Convention for amending the Constitution of Massachusetts, held a few years since, a proposition was brought forward for abolishing this Executive Council. That proposition was at first received with great favor, and if we recollect aright the abolition of the Council passed the Convention by a large majority. The idea was that this Council was a useless old piece of lumber, and that a any such body had been dispensed with in New-York and several other States, Massachusetts might do well to follow the example. It happened, however, that there were in the Convention several gentlemen who had acted as members of the Council, and from statements made by them, from their own experience, of the services rendered by the Council in this very matter of applications for the exercise of the pardoning power, the Convention was induced to reverse its former vote.

Would it not be well to create a court, council or commission to act as the Governor's advisers in this business of pardons! We commend this question to the censideration of the Assembly now in session

There is another point, too, of the Massachusetts aw that might, perhaps, be imitated with advantage. The being sent to the State Prison a second or third time constitutes in that State a distinctive offense, for which every second or third comer. after having served out the sentence under which he was re-sent there, is subjected to an extension of his term of imprisonment by a new sentence based on the record of his second or third conviction. Certainly it would be no more than reasonable to apply this principle at least to the case of convicts pardoned out and coming back again on new sentences. Additional imprisonment for at least double the term of the remitted sentence would seem to be, in cases of that sort, but a piece of ustice no less to the public than to the criminal.

Among other bills pending before Congress is one for increasing the pay of the officers of the Army-1 class of the public servants who have hitherto had no share in the increase of compensation so generally granted within a few years past.

The monthly pay and the number of rations alowed to the Army officers remain, with only trifling alterations, at the amounts established so ong ago as 1802. The price of rations was fixed in 1808 at twenty cents, at which rate it still continues. A captain in the artillery or infantry receives scarcely \$1,200 a year, pay, rations and everything included. A lieutenant receives about \$900. These were handsome salaries forty years ago, and adequate to the support of a family, but with the changes which have since occurred in the style of living and the value of money, they have ceased to be so. And in the case of our Army flicers this deficiency is aggravated by the fact that they are so constantly on the move, and frequently required to undertake expensive journeys from one extremity of the country to the other.

We have never been advocates for high salaries. but policy, no less than justice, requires that all persons employed in the public service should receive a reass nable compensation, corresponding to

Army a a ready suffered the less of some of its beet office ", whem the necessity of providing se adequate sup ort for their families has compelled to return to private life. We are in danger of retaining in the public service only that portion of the officers whose services might best be spared; nor do we see any cure for this cril, except by an increase of pay. If the question were about dispensing altogether with an army, much might be said on that topie; but if we are to have one, let us have one of which we shall have no reason to be ashamed.

The Committees in the Board of Councilmen

were announced last night. The Democratic majority got very much excited in the matter and did everal absurd things. Mr. Haswell, the defeated caucus candidate for President, declined to serve on the Law Committee: Mr. Ryer resigned from the same Committee; Mr. Hughes backed out from the Arts and Sciences and Mr. Dunn from the Public Health Committee. What was more remarkable, the majority, almost to a man, voted to accept the resignations, thus squarely deserting the President, and throwing everything into confusion. This is all because half a dozen aspirants for the post of Chairman of the Finance Committee were disappointed. We submit that if any have the right to complain it is the Republican members. They are generally excluded from the most important Committees, such as Assessments, Finance, Street Cleaning, Water, Ferries, Land and Places (Central Park), Police, Repairs and Supplies, Salaries, Streets and Wharves; and are put on Arts and Sciences, Laws and Ordinances, Accounts and a few others scarcely more important. We do not mention this to complain, nor to drag politics into the Board. The Republicans asked nothing-and got it, pretty nearly. If political c'a'ms had been ignored, the Opposition members would have had a very different position. As it is, we presume they will be contented to witness the "harmony" of the majority with due patience and complacency.

### THE LATEST NEWS. RECEIVED BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

#### FROM WASHINGTON

Special Pispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 9, 1857. The recent letter in THE TRIBUNE representing that the Interior Department had excepted to the conduct of Commissioner Eddy in the Delaware lard sales is a decided mistake, and must have been prompted by interested parties in the Leavenworth Land Company, which is composed of Southern and Free-State men in a common speculation. Mr. Eddy's acts have been approved throughout, and he came home to consult authorities personally before proceeding with the sales, believing the appraisement to have been depreciated to the disadvantage of the Indians, which view is concurred in by the Commissioners who were appointed for the purpose upon the ground that the recent troubles lessened the value of the land.

Information has reached here from reliable scurces that the Border Ruffians of Missouri have planned a descent upon the Shawnee lands on the Karsas River about the 20th of next month. By the treaty with this tribe they were allowed to select 200 000 acres between the Missouri State line and thirty miles west. Owing to the non comp'etien of surveys and delay on the part of the United States the locations have not been made by the Indians, and the design now proposed is to seize the best part of the reservation. The Government is apprised of this intended foray, and steps will be taken to prevent it, or a collision must be

The opposition threatened by a portion of the South against Mr. Harrison's nomination as Kansas Judge is on the pretext that the President has no power of removal. This point was decided in the arly part of Mr. Pillmore's Administration, when he removed Mr. Goodrich in Minnesota, to appoint s personal friend, under the authority of Mr. Crittenden's opinion, then Attorney-General, and the nomination was confirmed unanimously

The President's levee, opening intended for right, was postponed in testimony of respect to Judge Daniel's bereavement.

The debate to day in the Senate on Mr. Harlan's case has only served to complicate it more effectually and increase the chances against his retention. Mr. Seward opened effectively for the right of Mr. Harlan, being sustained by Messrs, Brown and Hale, while Messrs, Stuart, Toucey and Dougas were against. The question now has assumed a party aspect, and chances are therefore embar-

Much sensation was produced in the House to day by the resolution of Mr. Kelsey for a Special Committee of five to investigate the charges of corruption alleged by The New York Times, and support d by the testimeny of Mr. Paine of North Carolina. After various suggestions of amendment it was passed in the original form. This movement does not directly cover the land, printing, or other large operations of last session, or the sale of books and eate by members, which are involved in the principle of inquiry, and are important to be investigated if an effort is to be prosecuted seriously; otherwise the whole affair is a farce, because, on pending measures, no proof of direct venality may be established. The parties implicated have covered their tracks pretty effectually, or will rely upon the contumecy of witnesses. Nothing short of a therough scrutiny will satisfy the public since it has

BE-ELECTION OF SENATOR SUMNER.

Bostos, Friday, Jan. 5, 1857. The vote in the House this morning on the election of a United States Senator resulted in 323 for Charles Sumper, against 12 scattering. The scattering votes were divided between Edward Everett, Rufus Choate, Wm. Appleten and N. J. Lord.

The Sepate will vote upon the question on Tuesday

## FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 9, 1857. Official information has been received that the Shawnee Indians have recently completed their selections of 200,000 acres in their reserve, and that consequently thereon an extensive organization has been formed by persons in that vicinity. It is also reported to go on that reserve on or before February next, and that they will occupy as much of the remainder of the 200 (00 serce as they may desire. The treaty profile the white settlers from occupying these lands until circty days after the selections are made and apreelsmatice. The Committee on Irdian Affairs, by direction of the

esident, has ordered Col. Cummings, Superintendent Indian Affairs at St. Louis, to go to the Shawnes we said prevent the whites from "jumping" the ure, Miami, Kaw, Half Breed, or any other In-lands, said to be weath from \$20 to \$20 an ser-istings for troops Land been sent by telegraph,

Col. Spancer, recently appointed Marshal of Russes, is here, awalting the action of the Scante on his near Mr. Hosgland from Kansas is in the city, argien ong other things, an appropriation of \$10,000 for the capital at Lecompton.

#### XXXIVTH CONGRESS SECOND SESSION.

and a mesenger to enforce, if necessary, Government

SENATE .. WASHINGTON, Jan. 9, 1867. Mr. SEWARD introduced a bill to expedite tele-graphic communication for the use of Government in its foreign intercourses. The bill authorizes the Secre-tary of State, in the discretion and under the direction tary of State, in the discretion and under the direction of the President, to contract with any competent person or person, or association, for the aid of the United States in laying down a sub-marine cable to connect existing telegraphs between the coast of Newfoundland and the coast of Ireland; and for the use of such sub-marine communication, when established, by the Government of the United States on such terms and conditions as shall recent to the President just and reasonable, Provided that the Government of Great Birtain shall before or at the same time, enter into a like contract for these purposes with the same person, persons or associations, and upon terms of exact equality with those stipulated for by the United States; and provided that the tariff of prices for the use of such submarine comstipulated for by the United States; and provided that the tariff of prices for the use of such submarine communication by the public shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Tressury of the United States and the Government of Great Britain or its authorized agent. Provided further, That the the United States shall enjoy the use of the said submarine telegraphic communication for a period of 50 years, on the same terms and conditions which shall be stipulated in favor of the Government of Great Britain, the contract so to be extend into by such persons or association with red into by such person, persons or association wi

The bill was referred to the Committee on Post The House bill for the payment of invalid and other

pensioners was passed.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the

Iowa Election case,
Mr. SEWARD based his argument in favor of Mr.
Harlan's right to a seat on the ground, that while Logislative acts require the concurrent votes of the two
branches of the Legislature, the act of choosing a
United States Senator was not a legislative act, but
merely an additional duty which had been devolved
upon the nembers of the Legislature. When they
performed this duty it was in joint convention, the individuality of the two Houres being merged and lost
in the joint body.

in the joint body.

Mr. STUART took the position that the election was unconstitutional, and the report of the Judiciary Committee to that effect well founded.

Mesers. BROWN and HALE favored the claim of

the sitting member.

Merers. TOUCEY and DOUGLAS opposed it, but

Meesrs. TOUCH and POUNDA'S opposed its no question was taken.

On motion of Mr. BELL (New-Hampshire), a resolution was adopted requesting the President, if in his opinion it is not inconsistent with the public interests, to communicate to the Senate such information as may be on file in the Department of State relative to interference at the Island of Aves, in the Caribbean Sea, of the Venezuellan Government with American citizens are rightfully in occupancy of the said island. who were rightfully in occupancy of the said island, as they believed, and were engaged in collecting guano therefrom—the said Government having forcibly ejected the said American citizens from their lawful supplements. energy and also to communicate what measures have been taken, it any, by the Government of the United States to obtain redress from the Government of Venezuels. Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House passed twenty-one private bitls.

An adjournment was about being effected, when Mr. KELSEY introduced a subject which caused much excitement. He presented it as a question of privilege, first causing to be read at the Clerk's table an editorial from The New-York Times of the 6th inst, which charged Members of Congress and lobby agents with gress corruption, mentioning the Minnesota Land bill in the connection and saying that evidence can be produced to carry conviction to every housest heart, and that the criminals should be driven from the high places which they have dishonored. Mr. Kelsey remarked that the charges contained in this article appeared to have been based on a letter from the city to The Times. Under ordinary circumstances it would be a waste of time to notice articles of this character appearing in newspapers, but the editor of The Times occupied a position before the country which entitled his sentiments to credit. If he is in possession of the facts he therein charges he should substantiate them before a Committee of the Hence, that members who may be guilty of such conduct should be known to the country. As the case duct should be known to the country. As the case new stands, he (Kelsey) could neither vote for nor gainst a proposition without bringing himself directly ader the charges in that acticle. If there exists such conbination, as is slieged, he wanted to know it and ave the facts go before the people. He concluded by ffering the following:

ficring the following:

Whereas, Certain statements have been published, charging the members of this House with entering into a corrupt combination for the purpose of passing and of preventing the passing of certain measures now before Congress; therefore, Res Isrd, That a Committee of five members be appointed by the Speaker with power to send for persons and papers to investigate said charges, and that the Committee opport the evidence to be taken, and what action is necessary on the part of the Hones, without unnecessary delay.

Mr. PAINE: I measure the part of the Part o

dence to be taken, and what action is uccessary on the part of the House, without unnecessary delay.

Mr. PAINE—I scarce'y know whether I ought to say anything or not. I know nothing about that editor or his fournal. I know nothing about any communication made to it. I know not have the editor or his fournal. I know not have the editor or take, but I do know there has been a proposition made in the House by members of the House on the subject. [Sensation, and cries of "Who is he?" "Expose him! I shall not name the gentleman [Cries of "Down in front" "We can't see]. I shall nention no Member by name [A voice—"You ought to do it]. It was with feelings of indignation I heard the proposition [Impatient demands of "Whawas it?" "Teh it? The reason why I did not announce it to the House was that, pending the organization of this body, when a member rose in his place and related that a fellow-member had made an attempt to tamper with him for his vote for Speaker, the only credit he that a fellow-member had made an attempt to tamper with him for his vote for Speaker, the only credit he received was that he was laughed at, and it was charged that he did not accept the proffered bribe because there was no such profitable place to be had. I say distinctly there is not a want of truth in the allegation contained in The Times article. A distinct proposition was made to me by a member of this House in regard to the Minnesota Land bill, and that \$1,500 would be given in consideration of a vote for that bill, if the proposed Committee shall be raised, and I am called on as a witness, I shall give my evidence.

Mr. A. K. MARSHALL.—I am extremely unwilling to base the action of the House on charges made in any

to base the action of the House on charges made in any newspaper of the day. I had determined to vote against lution; but now the position of affairs is totally different. A member has announced that there is true omerert. A member has announced that there is truth in the article. He states this of his own knowlinder, a proposition having been made to him. On this statement alone we should base our action. I do not wish to bring the New-York papers into that sort of respectability which our action on their condust would bestow. Such contemptible things should not be so bonored.

Mr. PHELPS-If I anderstand correctly, the charges read from The Times were made in the editorial columns of that paper. I learn that the editor of The Times was Lleutenant-Governor of New-York, and when gettlemen of such standing make such charges,

when gentlemen of such standing make such charges, I ask whether it is not worth our while to make the inquiry, especially after the stalement of the gentlemen from North Carolias.

Mr. A. K. MARSHALL (resulting)—I don't care what character the editor had. I don't care whather had be a such that the statement Governor of Governor, or no! Partisas editor are inducated and controlled by positions and interest, which we know do not control men in other pursuits. I sak whether it does not more become our haracter and dignity to base our action on the statement of one of our own members, rather than on that of an ex-lieutenant Governor or Governor, or that of

ment of one of our own members, rather than on that of an ext-lieutenant Governor or Governor, or that of an ext-lieutenant Governor or Governor, or that of a neditor of a paper 1. There have been other matters and intimations thrown out beside this in editorial riticles. A distinct charge has been made of an atomptic corrupt a member of this House. Let the Committee inquire into all the alleged corruptions; I suppose the resolution is sufficiently broad for that purpose. Mr. CAMPBELL (Ohio)—During the past slight years it has been my lot to serve in this House, and I have generally been here when important votes were taken. With but a single exception I have voted for bills granting lands in alternate sections for railroad purposes. I have given my reasons for doing ro, on former occasions. We are startled now by the gentleman from New York, who sends to the Clerk's desk as editorial article from The New York Times. The gentleman from Missouri attempts to dignify it by asying theman from Missouri attempts to dignity it by saying that it was written by the Lie atemant Governor of the State of New-York. It is, however, at best, but an State of New-York. It is, however, at best, but an article from a newspaper. I don't care whether it comes from the West or East; every intelligent megaber of this body ought to have learned that it is not becoming in the American Congress, especially during a short ression like this, when bills affecting the interosts of the whole community are at stake, to stop and inquire into a charge of this kind, which is based solely on the idea that some editor or assistant or newspaper penny-a-liner has seen fit to mailing this body. Having felt in my own person within the last two years the weight of assants of this kind. Occupying the relations I do to this body or the centry. I should not favor the investigation prodicated or the charge raffer by the writer, through manufactived rays and impuback and oil, were it not for the statement distinctly made by the greatleman from Nation

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